

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An air intake control device for an internal combustion engine comprising a bypass for supplying air to ~~the~~a position downstream from a throttle valve by bypassing the throttle valve, when the throttle valve is set at ~~the~~a mechanically fully closed position, wherein ~~the~~a position for minimum intake air volume to control ~~the~~an air intake is formed at a position slightly more open than the mechanically fully closed position.

2. (Currently Amended) An air intake control device for an internal combustion engine comprising a throttle valve for adjusting ~~the~~an opening area of an air intake passage, wherein a groove for increasing ~~the~~an air passage area is formed on ~~the~~an air intake wall slightly ~~downward from~~below the fully ~~enclosed~~closed position of said throttle valve for control purposes.

3. (Currently Amended) An air intake control device for an internal combustion engine according to Claim 2, wherein a groove is formed in an air intake passage so as to increase the volume of air passing through the air intake passage when the throttle valve has opened beyond a predetermined angle.

4. (Currently Amended) An air intake control device for an internal combustion engine according to Claim 3, wherein a groove is formed in the air intake passage so as to maintain a constant volume of air passing through the air intake passage when the throttle valve has opened beyond a predetermined angle.

5. (Currently Amended) An air intake control device for an internal combustion engine according to Claim 2, wherein a part of the air intake passage is formed in a spherical form approximate to the rotary locus of the throttle valve.

6. (Currently Amended) An air intake control device for an internal combustion engine according to Claim 3, wherein a part of the air intake passage is formed in a spherical form approximate to the rotary locus of the throttle valve.

7. (Currently Amended) An air intake control device for an internal combustion engine according to Claim 4, wherein a part of the air intake passage is formed in a spherical form approximate to the rotary locus of the throttle valve.

8. (Currently Amended) An air intake control device for a gasoline engine comprising a bypass for supplying air to the position downstream from a throttle valve, ~~by passing~~ bypassing the throttle valve when the throttle valve is set at a default position, wherein the position for minimum intake air volume to control the air intake is formed at a position slightly more open than said default position.

9. (Currently Amended) An air intake control device for a gasoline engine according to Claim 8, wherein a groove is formed on the wall surrounding the air intake passage so as to increase the volume of air passing through the air intake passage when the throttle valve has opened from the position for minimum intake air volume to control the air intake.

10. (Currently Amended) An air intake control device for a gasoline engine according to Claim 7, wherein a part of the air intake passage is machined in a spherical form approximate to the rotary locus of the throttle valve.